

To the members of the Iowa Legislature's Health Policy Oversight Committee:

I urge you to do what you can to stop Gov. Branstad's ill-conceived plan to award contracts to four private managed care companies to administer Iowa's Medicaid program. Please hold him and his administration to account for how this arrangement possibly can be considered good public business and policy. Please make him explain how feeding the profit needs of these companies will be more efficient than public administration of this program by capable government employees, and how it will cover more Iowans in need and keep health care costs to manageable levels. He will not be able to explain these things to the satisfaction of any thoughtful, reasonable citizen, taxpayer, or voter.

In cooperation and collaboration with the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, please stop Gov. Branstad's plan before it can be implemented. As important as stopping it, though, is making this governor, who runs roughshod over rules and procedures to do whatever he thinks is best (for corporate business interests), accountable to the public he was elected to serve.

Sincerely,

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